

PRESS RELEASE



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Commission Recommends Approval of New Nursing Program

April 2, 2003 — Sacramento — The California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), a state panel that conducts independent, non-partisan policy analysis and provides recommendations on higher education to the Governor and Legislature, recommended today the approval of a new Registered Nurse Associate Degree program at Los Angeles City College. It is the first new community college registered nurse program approved by the state since 1987. “California is facing a critical shortage of nurses,” said Robert L. Moore, Executive Director of the Commission. “This new program will train nearly 40 new nurses each year, and meet some of the needs of hospitals throughout the Los Angeles region.” The program also is designed to assist students in transferring from the community college to a four-year nursing program.

“We are extremely pleased that the college was successful in securing an Industry-Driven Collaborative Grant through the Economic Development Network to initiate this program,” Moore said. “Such collaborative efforts are necessary during these times of fiscal constraint.” In addition to the grant, the college will receive in-kind support from Kaiser Permanente, Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, and Queen of Angels/Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital.

The Commission recently published a report on admission practices and attrition rates at California community college registered nurse programs. Its report made several recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for improving the manner by which students are admitted to community college nursing programs, along with suggestions for reducing student attrition in those programs.

The Commission is responsible for recommending approval of all new academic and occupational programs proposed by public colleges and universities in the state. In 2002, the Commission recommended approval of nearly 100 new community college programs statewide.

Information about the Commission and its recent report on community college nursing programs can be found on its website at www.cpec.ca.gov.